

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 COA-02 DLOS-07 EB-11 IO-14 COME-00

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R 230945Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3486

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 9652

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ETRN JA CH TW

SUBJ: SINO-JAPANESE PEACE TREATY: PEKING AND TAIPEI MANEUVERS

REF: A. PEKING 1224 B. TAIPEI 4537 C. TOKYO 9630

SUMMARY: FONOFF INTERPRETS SINO-JAPAN FRIENDSHIP ASSN
VP CHANG'S POSITIVE REMARKS ON NEGOTIATING SINO-JAPANESE
PEACE TREATY AS SIGNAL TO MODIFIED TANAKA CABINET THAT
PEKING SEEKS EARLY MOVEMENT IN SINO-JAPAN RELATIONS. WHILE
GOJ ATTITUDE HAS NOT CHANGED NOR HAS GOJ RECEIVED ANY RECENT
OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION ON PEACE TREATY, NEW FORMIN
KIMURA IS PREPARED TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS ON PEACE TREATY
IN PARALLEL WITH TALKS ON TECHNICAL AGREEMENTS. BOTH
PEKING AND TAIPEI APPEAR TO BE JOCKEYING FOR FAVORABLE
POSITION WITH TANAKA'S ALTERED CABINET. END SUMMARY.

1. FONOFF CHINA DIV DEP DIRECTOR OGURA PROVIDED EMBASSY
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FOLLOWING INSIGHTS INTO RECENT FLURRY OF SIGNALS CALLING

FOR EARLY NEGOTIATION OF SINO-JAPANESE PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY (PFT). JAPANESE HAVE RECEIVED NO RPT NO OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION FROM PEKING ON PFT SINCE QUESTION WAS INFORMALLY DISCUSSED BY TREATY BUREAU DIRGEN MATSUNAGA AND PRC ASIA AFFAIRS DIRGEN LU WEI-LIU DURING FORMER FONMIN OHIRA'S JANUARY TRIP TO PEKING. OGURA SPECULATED THAT SINO-JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP ASSN VP CHANGE HSIANG-SHAN'S ADVOCACY OF PFT NEGOTIATIONS TO JAPAN-CHINA FRIENDSHIP COUNCIL DELEGATION NOW VISITING CHINA WAS SIGNAL TO TANAKA CABINET AND NEW FONMIN KIMURA THAT PRC WISHES TO PROMOTE FURTHER EARLY ADVANCES IN SINO-JAPANESE RELATIONS. OGURA, WHO DISCUSSED CHINA POLICY WITH FONMIN KIMURA JULY 22 JUST PRIOR TO KIMURA'S GIVING PRESS BACKGROUNDER, TOLD EMBASSY GOJ WAS ALWAYS WILLING TO NEGOTIATE PFT BUT GOJ POLICY ON "NATURAL" SEQUENCE OF NEGOTIATING VARIOUS TREATIES HAS NOT CHANGED. PFT WOULD MORE LOGICALLY FOLLOW AS CAPSTONE TREATY OF SINO-JAPANESE RELATIONS AFTER TECHNICAL AGREEMENTS ON SHIPPING AND FISHERIES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. NEVERTHELESS, GOJ WOULD NOT PRECLUDE CONDUCTING PARALLEL NETOTIATIONS ON PFT AND TECHNICAL AGREEMENTS. KIMURA AND OGURA CONCURRED IN FONMINS'S TELLING PRESS THAT FONOFF DOES NOT FORESEE SUBSTANTIAL DIFFICULTIES IN CONCLUDING SHIPPING AND FISHERIES AGREEMENTS AND PFT IN DUE COURSE. OGURA, WHO IS PARTICIPATING IN SHIPPING NEGOTIATIONS, ALSO RECONFIRMED STATUS OF TALKS AS REPORTED TOKYO 9630. ALTHOUGH PEKING'S NEGOTIATORS HAVE MENTIONED FLAG QUESTION RAISED IN USLO PEKING'S DISCUSSION WITH JAPANESE EMBOFF (REF A), ISSUE HAS NOT BEEN STRESSED AND FONOFF HOPES THAT ISSUE IS BARGAINING TACTIC RATHER THAN FIRM PRC DEMAND.

2. COMMENT: AS USLO'S AND EMBASSY TAIPEI'S CABLES DEMONSTRATE, BOTH PEKING AND TAIPEI ARE JOCKEYING FOR FAVORABLE POSITIONS WITH MODIFIED TANAKA GOVERNMENT. OGURA NOTED THAT PEKING PROBABLY CONCLUDES THAT QTE WEAKENED TANAKA GOVERNMENT UNQTE IS EAGER FOR FOREIGN POLICY SUCCESSES WHICH CONCLUSION OF AGREEMENTS AND TREATIES WITH PRC WOULD REPRESENT. CHANG'S REMARKS SIGNALLED PRC READINESS TO ACCOMMODATE. IN ADDITION, WE WOULD ADD THAT PEKING, IN FACE OF SOMEWHAT LESS ACCOMMODATING PUBLIC AND GOJ ATTITUDES TOWARD PRC IN JAPAN

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FOLLOWING CIVAIR IMBROGLIO, MAY BE TRYING TO REBUILD POPULAR PRESSURE IN JAPAN FOR MORE RAPID MOVEMENT IN SINO-JAPANESE RELATIONS. AS FOR JAPANESE, OGURA TOLD EMBOFF KIMURA'S REMARKS TO PRESS WERE COUCHED POSITIVELY FOR DOMESTIC AUDIENCE AND GOJ DOES NOT WISH TO SIGNAL TO PEKING OVEREAGERNESS FOR ACHIEVING VARIOUS AGREEMENTS. FOR THIS REASON , THRUST OF JAPANESE EMBOFF'S ASSESSMENT PROVIDED USLO AND USLO'S COMMENT APPEAR RIGHT ON MARK.

3. INDICATIONS IN TAIPEI AND TOKYO SUGGESTING
IMPROVED TIES BETWEEN JAPAN AND TAIWAN MAYBE IN OFFING WOULD
SIMILARLY APPEAR TO US TO BE SIGNALS RATHER THAN SUBSTANTIVE
DEVELOPMENTS. TO REINFORCE THIS IMPRESSION, IN EARLIER PRESS
BACKGROUNDERS, KIMURA ADMITTED THAT HIS POSITIVE COMMENTS IN PUBLIC
ON RESTORING AIR LINK WITH TAIWAN THUS FAR REFLECTED HOPES
RATHER THAN ANY ACTUAL DEVELOPMENTS.
HODGSON

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